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July 21, 2010

CHANCELLORS

Dear Colleagues:

I write to advise you of my support and enthusiasm for a new Universitywide committee, the Electronic Accessibility Leadership Team (EALT). Organized under the auspices of the University of California Information Technology Leadership Council, the EALT is charged with leading an initiative to promote a UC electronic environment that is welcoming and responsive to everyone, particularly individuals with disabilities. This initiative offers an exciting new opportunity to enhance UC's ongoing commitment to excellence and to think systematically and creatively about how we serve the growing number of people who, with or without formally disclosing a disability, increasingly depend on a fully accessible electronic environment.

The EALT comprises at least one representative from each campus, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, and the Office of the President. I enclose the membership list and charge for your information. In the first phase, the EALT is developing priorities and goals for systemwide collaboration by building upon work already underway at individual UC campuses, as well as in the California State and Community College systems. The EALT will be conducting an initial assessment of campus practices and needs in a broad range of areas. The group will propose an electronic accessibility policy, accompanied by specific recommendations that I look forward to discussing with you in the coming months.

Your support for improving the accessibility of our electronic environment is vital. Done thoughtfully, such efforts can be carried out using existing resources by integrating accessibility principles at the start of technology and purchasing cycles, by exploring innovative approaches to teaching and learning guided by principles of universal design, and by promoting awareness and ensuring close collaboration among service providers and experts.

I am personally committed to the goals of the EALT and will pay close attention to its efforts and outcomes. As part of a broad and substantive commitment to accessibility in all venues, the time has come for the University to take a lead role in advancing

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electronic accessibility, not only because it is the right thing to do, but also to tap new sources of innovation and imagination. I am sure you share my commitment to accessibility. I ask that you support the work of the EALT on your campuses and that you take steps to bring awareness to the importance of making measurable progress in this important endeavor.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Yudof', written in a cursive style.

Mark G. Yudof  
President

cc: Academic Council Chair Powell  
Executive Vice President Brostrom  
Associate Vice President Ernst  
Information Technology Leadership Council Members  
Electronic Accessibility Leadership Team Members  
Executive Vice Chancellors  
Vice Chancellors for Administration  
Vice Chancellors for Student Affairs

## Information Resources &amp; Communications

## Electronic Accessibility Leadership Team

July 2010

Organization	Representative
	Chair: Christine Bagwell Vice Chair: Joshua Hori
ITLC	Pete Siegel, Vice Provost. Information and Educational Technology, UCD
UCB	Lucy Greco. Assistive Technology Specialist, Disabled Students Program  Sarah Hawthorne. Assistant Provost. Academic Compliance & Disability Standards
UCD	Joshua Hori. Assistive Technology Computer Resource Specialist. Student Disability Center
UCI	Jan Serrantino. Director. Disability Services Center
UCLA	Patrick Burke. Coordinator. Disabilities and Computing Program
UCM	Christopher Volkerts. Manager. Communications and Information Technology Planning
UCR	Bob Bottomly. Senior Web Architect. Strategic Communications
UCSB	Mark Grosch. Adaptive Technology Specialist, Disabled Students Program
UCSC	Susan Willats. ADA Compliance Officer: Assistant Director, Transportation and Parking Services
UCSt>	Christine Bagwell. Associate Director. Academic Computing  Barry Niman. Director. Accommodation, Counseling, and Consulting Services (ACCES), Human Resources
UCSF	Terry Smith. Director of Learning and Student Disabilities
ANR	Karl Krist. WAT Manager/Programmer. Communication Services
LBNL	Kristine Hafner. Acting IT Division Director and CIO
UCOP	David Ernst, Associate Vice President and Chief Information Officer  Yvonne Tevis. Chief of Staff. Information Resources and Communications
Purchasing	Stephen Benedict. Director. IT Strategic Sourcing

Please submit your questions, comments, and suggestions at  
Last updated: July 20, 2010

## UC Electronic Accessibility Leadership Team

Charge Statement

April 2, 2010

The UC Information Technology Leadership Council (ITLC) is committed to promoting an electronic environment at the University of California that is accessible to everyone, especially individuals with disabilities. To this end, the ITLC is forming the **UC Electronic Accessibility Leadership Team** to provide systemwide strategic direction for the UC electronic accessibility initiative and to identify and promote projects that will substantially improve the accessibility of the University electronic environment.

### **Membership**

Representation: The team will be composed of a representative from each UC campus, UCOP, and LBNL, as well as from key functional areas: Academic Senate, University Counsel, Purchasing, ADA Compliance, the Libraries, student and faculty/staff disability services, campus Bookstores, and information technology. The team will include 1-2 individuals who can lend a first-person perspective on issues and opportunities related to electronic accessibility. Whenever appropriate, representatives will be selected from existing UC-wide groups representing the functional areas listed above, thereby ensuring timely and effective coordination across both campuses and committees.

The campus representatives selected to serve on the Leadership Team should be champions of electronic accessibility, not necessarily technology experts, and should be in a position to coordinate effectively with other personnel responsible for campus accessibility issues, such as the ADA Compliance Officer, as well as a broad cross-spectrum of the campus community.

ITLC Participation: In addition, at least two members of the ITLC shall serve as members of the Leadership Team. The ITLC members shall be responsible for conveying ITLC recommendations to the Leadership Team and for ensuring that the Leadership Team and its work groups communicate with ITLC standing committees whose work overlaps with electronic accessibility issues. These committees include the UC IT Policy and Security Officers and the Education Technology Leadership Group.

Chair: Members will elect a chair to set agendas and schedule and facilitate meetings.

### **Purpose and Charge**

The Team will identify, prioritize, and promote initiatives that advance the cause of electronic accessibility at UC. Specifically, it shall

- Make a recommendation about Presidential policy on electronic accessibility
- Determine areas of greatest risk, opportunity and prioritize accordingly
- Identify areas, resources, and processes for multi-institutional collaboration
  - o Define and prioritize specific opportunities for effective collaboration and partnership (e.g., within the UC system and with the CSU and Community Colleges)
  - o Pursue collaborative funding and develop grant proposals to advance electronic access in the UC system (and more broadly throughout California)

- o Encourage and support collaboration with faculty initiatives in critical disability studies
- o Develop an online collaborative space that can be used to encourage system-wide coordination and contributions on a broad range of issues and topics (electronic accessibility as it relates to pedagogy, course materials, digital texts, procurement, policy, Web, etc.) and that can also serve to model accessible online communication practices)
- Define a set of effective practices for adoption by campuses and departments
- Develop strategies to make accessible design a standard component of new IT initiatives
- Develop training opportunities and materials for UC staff and a corresponding program for faculty focused on universal design in teaching
- Establish discrete work groups whose charge will be to delve into specific issues and opportunities related to improving the accessibility of our electronic environment. These work groups will consult broadly and work closely with their campuses to inform recommendations to the IT Leadership Council. Examples include
  - o Web site accessibility resources group (already formed)
  - o Web site testing tools evaluation group (already formed)
  - o Future groups may focus on issues ranging from campus climate, digital textbooks, accessibility in teaching and learning, procurement, funding opportunities, policy, etc.

**Timeframe**

The team should hold its first meeting no later than April 2010 to establish goals and tasks, as well as plan a regular meeting schedule. Monthly conference calls are recommended. At the end of the 2009-2010 academic year, the team will produce a brief report of activities and recommendations, which will form the basis for a longer-term UC-wide strategic framework for electronic accessibility. Quarterly progress reports will be provided to the IT Leadership Council and published on the Web to allow broader community input.